## Message Text

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**ACTION NEA-10** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

OMB-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SCCT-01 ACDA-05 SAB-01 /077 W ------ 105957

R 050710Z JAN 76 FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5001 INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, SY, IR
SUBJECT: SYRIAN-IRANIAN COMMUNIQUE STRESSES PALESTINIAN, PLO
RIGHTS

REF: TEHRAN 12606 (NOTAL)

- 1. BRIEF JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED DECEMBER 31 AT END OF SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASAD'S VISIT (REFTEL) NOTEWORTH ONLY FOR ITS UNUSUAL STRESS OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS AND EXPLICIT CRITICISM OF ISRAEL FOR REFUSING TO RECOGNIZE THOSE RIGHTS.
- 2. OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF COMMUNIQUE READ AS FOLLOWS: "LEADERS OF TWO COUNTRIES EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN AT EXPLOSIVE SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST WHICH HAS RESULTED FROM CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES AND REFUSAL OF ISRAEL TO RECOGNIZE THE LEGITIMATE AND INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE OF PALESTINE. TWO LEADERS STRESSED POINT THAT THERE CAN BE NO JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST UNLESS ISRAEL WITHDRAWS FROM ALL ARAB TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN JUNE 1967 AND RECOGNIZES NATIONAL AND INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE OF PALESTINE."
- 3. PARAGRAPH FOLLOWING THAT ABOVE CONTAINED JOINT STATEMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT PLO "MUST BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL

EFFORTS FOR A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION."

4. COMMENT: ABOVE STATEMENTS GO CONSIDERABLY FURTHER THAN THOSE FROM PAST COMMUNIQUES FOLLOWING VISITS BY ARAB LEADERS, ALTHOUGH SHAH HIMSELF HAS BEEN PUBLICLY CRITICALOF ISRAEL FOR FAILING TO SEIZE OPPORTUNITY TO NEGOTIATE A LASTING SETTLEMENT OF ARAB-ISRAELI PROBLEM FOLLOWING SINAI ACCORDS. TEHRAN PRESS COMMENTARY ON ASAD'S VISIT HAS EMPHASIZED IMPROVED STATE OF IRAN'S RELATIONS WITH ARAB WORLD. IRANIANS HAVE NOW TAKEN A SLIGHTLY MORE PRO-ARAB AND PRO-PALESTINIAN PUBLIC POSITION THAN HERETOFORE, YET WITHOUT DIMINISHING THEIR INFORMAL WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL.

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## Message Attributes

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